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3 June 1957

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

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SUBJECT : Interview with [REDACTED] Management Staff.

REFERENCE: Memo for the Record dtd 29 May 57 by DD/S, same subject.

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1. On 31 May 1957 I interviewed [REDACTED] Secretary to the Chief of the Management Staff, with regard to specific charges made by [REDACTED] concerning which she was said to have personal knowledge. I advised her that I had been told that she had recently read from two typed pages a commentary on [REDACTED] conduct and actions for the past three years and that after having typed a complete chronicle of events--of which these two pages were a part--she had recorded it on tape and mailed it to a priest in Australia asking for his advice on the situations described therein.

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2. [REDACTED] said that this was an exaggeration of the actual facts and immediately proceeded to explain. She stated that she had discussed with Mr. [REDACTED] a short list of questions which she had sent to a priest in Australia (she assured me that they were entirely personal and that they did not violate security in any way) and denied having recorded them on tape or having made a list of [REDACTED] actions over the past two or three years. She advised that due to her inability to understand some of [REDACTED] attitudes in many of her dealings with him she had sought the advice of a confidential source whom she considered would give her an absolutely honest appraisal of the circumstances she had described. At this point she proceeded to relate to me some of the situations which had prompted her to take this action. She said that:

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a. in lieu of making out a Fitness Report on her for the past two years [REDACTED] had written "the same as last year";

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b. she had discussed her position with [REDACTED] with the hope of getting a promotion, whereupon he asked the Personnel people to make a desk audit but refused to talk to them until they had come up with a report. (She heard later that [REDACTED] had told the Personnel representatives that he would make it tough for them if they recommended that her position be upgraded.)

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c. following these discussions with [REDACTED] he had returned from lunch one day so intoxicated that he couldn't talk. As she put it, "his lips just wouldn't work." While in this condition he called her into his office and berated her for a couple of hours. (This is the incident to which she referred in our earlier conversation as having resented very much and out of which grew her decision to write to the priest for advice.)

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3. I told [REDACTED] I had been advised that due to [REDACTED] drinking habits during the last two years his presence in the office had been limited frequently to periods from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 Noon and from 2:00 p.m. to 3:30 p.m., that he often called in instead of returning after lunch and sometimes did not report to the office until Noon. She assured me again that Mr. [REDACTED] absences were always charged to leave and that the only exceptions were when she credited him with duty while he was en route to New York on the train, at which time he had official reading to do; however, she added that this did not happen too often. She was eager to point out again that she did not regard cocktails for lunch as being improper. However, she also said that she had tried her best to protect [REDACTED] in the office whenever he returned from lunch and appeared to have had too much to drink. She related that at Christmastime in 1955--while they were located at [REDACTED] [REDACTED] A9a had returned from lunch in a very intoxicated condition, that it had been obvious to everyone in the office, and that she had tried in vain to keep him from being conspicuous. Finally, she, personally, walked him to the door where he was met by [REDACTED] who went to have additional drinks somewhere. She confirmed that she had been present at a party on 4 July 1955 in the apartment of [REDACTED] had arrived--after having gone to the wrong apartment--escorted by some lady unknown to the group. She said that he was feeling quite high at the time but that she did not regard his conduct on this occasion to be out of order.

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4. She confirmed that [REDACTED] had made long distance calls and charged them to her home telephone number but said that he had always done so with her permission since there was no one at his own residence to verify the requests.

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5. With further regard to [REDACTED] drinking habits, she said that she had overheard one of the girls in the washroom say "Well, I hear the boys had to carry the old man in again." She stated she had also heard that Mr. [REDACTED] had been on the wagon for about the last six months and thought that maybe this was the reason that he was and had been so irritable during this period.

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Approved For Release 2001/07/12 : CIA-RDP78-04718A002400190029-6

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6. I asked [REDACTED] if it were true that [REDACTED] had permitted [REDACTED] to accumulate compensatory time presumably for work which she did at night in her home and if [REDACTED] had been granted permission recently to stay at home and work because the office was too noisy for her to concentrate. She confirmed that this was true but said that Mr.

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[REDACTED] or his secretary who kept the time and attendance records for Mrs. [REDACTED] would know more of the details. [REDACTED] has an extremely low opinion of [REDACTED] and thinks that she has "taken in" [REDACTED] very badly indeed. She said that [REDACTED] was allowed to freewheel at will and that this practice was a matter of common gossip in the Management Staff.

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7. Prior to her departure [REDACTED] asked me whether or not she should indicate to [REDACTED] that I had asked her to talk with me. I told her that I had no objection if she did and that in fact I had told [REDACTED] that [REDACTED] expected to talk to most, if not all, of the people in the Management Staff during the course of this investigation. She said that she appreciated this permission inasmuch as [REDACTED] required everyone whom I saw to report to him immediately upon their return to the office.

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[REDACTED]  
L. K. White  
Deputy Director  
(Support)

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